

# Lower Oahe Waterfowl Access Areas 2016-17 Waterfowl Report

For the Week of December 19, 2016

## WALK-IN AREAS

Reports of ducks feeding in the walk-in fields west of 1804 and down into the west side of Okobojo Creek area continued to come in last week. This may have changed some since the bays started to freeze up after the colder temperatures.

## REGISTRATION AREA

Upland Game hunting remains open in several of the areas designated as open to upland game hunting on the 2016 access maps. However as more birds move into the area and more waterfowl hunters come out to hunt this will change. Upland game hunters are reminded to watch for the signs designating the areas as open or closed along with any waterfowl hunters in the fields. The access trails into most of the fields remained good last week, but with the added snow fall and winds some areas became blocked, we will be working on getting trails opened back up this week and should have most of the access trails opened up in a few days.

**The Decoy-Only Registration Fields and Trailer will be closed on Christmas Day and will be reopening the day after Christmas with drawings continuing to take place one hour before sunrise each day.**

**Since there has been no significant change in the waterfowl populations from the flight on December 14 there will not be an aerial waterfowl survey conducted on the Missouri River the week before Christmas. A flight will be conducted the week after Christmas if weather in the Pierre area allows.**

## PASS-SHOOTING AREAS

There have been a few birds coming out over the pits in the Spring Creek area however it is unknown if there were any pass shooters in the area.

## SOLID AND STRIPED GREEN AREAS

The flight of birds going out west of Ft. Pierre continues to be decent with a couple of reports that there were some hunters setting out decoys in the field during the week, however there have been no reports on success.

## SUMMARY

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There will be a women's goose hunt taking place in the Pierre area on January 20, 21 and 22 for more information about this event contact Maggie Lindsey, Education Services Coordinator at 605-223- 7667. This event is limited to 12 participants with pre-registration required.

The 27<sup>th</sup> Annual South Dakota Youth Goose Hunt will be taking place on January 6, 7 and 8. This event is open to any youth ages 12-15. Requirements for this event are that all kids must have completed hunt safe education course, bring warm hunting type clothes, and a shotgun. Shells, breakfast and lunch will be provided on Saturday and Sunday, with supper being provided on Saturday evening before the seminar. More information can be found in the flier on the GFP page.